



## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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### **Louisiana State Police honors DEQ Emergency Responders**

**BATON ROUGE** - On August 30, the Louisiana State Police's Transportation and Environmental Safety unit presented certificates of recognition to DEQ Emergency Responders Bryan Riche' and Lee Lemond for their work to secure the damaged Stolthaven New Orleans, LLC, facility in Braithwaite during the aftermath of Hurricane Isaac in August 2012. Hurricane Isaac was a slow-moving storm that produced a large storm surge and caused severe damage to the environment as well as several residential properties and commercial facilities along Louisiana's coastal parishes.

Louisiana State Police Command Technician Taylor Moss presented the certificates of recognition.

Stolthaven, a petroleum and chemical storage and transfer facility located in Plaquemines Parish, experienced extensive damage to several tanks as well as its railroad car terminal during the hurricane. Riche' and Lemond deployed to the site quickly and worked continuously in order to secure the facility and render it safe as they conducted operations to mitigate the health and environmental impact. They coordinated cleanup efforts in partnership with the Louisiana State Police, the U.S. Coast Guard, Plaquemines Parish and other agencies to ensure that pollutant releases were recognized and remediated as quickly as possible. Riche' and Lemond addressed a variety of environmental concerns and took proactive measures during the course of the cleanup to protect human health and the environment.

"Our emergency response team performed above and beyond the call of duty in the wake of Hurricane Isaac's landfall, as their tireless effort to secure Stolthaven kept a difficult situation from growing worse," said DEQ Secretary Peggy Hatch. "Bryan Riche and Lee Lemond's professionalism and dedication in the face of a volatile and stressful situation is highly commendable. Their actions directly ensured for the safety and security of the facility employees, local citizens and first responders throughout the recovery and cleanup phase."

Bryan Riche is an Environmental Scientist Supervisor for the Emergency Response team based at DEQ headquarters in Baton Rouge. Lee Lemond is an Environmental Scientist and emergency responder with DEQ's Southeast Regional Office based in New Orleans.